

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /141 W

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R 081634Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8786

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 0964

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR XZ DA

SUBJECT: NORDIC FOREIGN MINISTERS

REF: COPENHAGEN 0955

SUMMARY: NORDIC FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING THIS SPRING
PRODUCED LITTLE NEWS, WITH SOME SESSIONS FORESHORTENED
BECAUSE PRINCIPALS HAD RUN OUT OF THINGS TO SAY.
COMMUNIQUE TOUCHED USUAL BASES ON TOUR OF DISTANT
HORIZONS, HOWEVER, WITH HELPFUL SUGGESTIONS ON HOW
CHILEANS, PORTUGUESE, AND SOUTH AFRICANS, AMONG OTHERS,
SHOULD BEHAVE. DANES SUBSCRIBED TO AGREED LANGUAGE
FINDING HOPE FOR SITUATION IN MIDDLE EAST BUT ADDED
SEPARATE PLUG FOR EC DECLARATION OF NOVEMBER 6.

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END SUMMARY.

1. COMMUNIQUE RESULTING FROM NORDIC FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING IN COPENHAGEN, APRIL 4-5, SEEMS EVEN BLANDER THAN USUAL. MFA OFFICIAL, THORNING-PETERSEN, REMINDED EMBOFF THAT SECURITY MATTERS ARE BY DEFINITION NOT DISCUSSED IN NORDIC GATHERINGS, BECUASE OF WIDELY DIVERGENT SITUATIONS OF ITS MEMBERS. ACCORDINGLY, COMMUNIQES, AND EVEN DISCUSSIONS THEMSELVES, TEND TO FOCUS ON NON-CONTROVERSAIL ISSUES.

2. CLOEST MINISTERS CAME TO CONTROVERSY WAS, EVIDENTLY, ON QUESTION OF PORTUGUESE COLONIES IN AFRICA, PARTICULARLY GUINEA-BISSAU. MFA SOURCE TELLS US NORWEGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER PUSHED HARD FOR MORE OPEN GESTURE OF SUPPORT FOR LIBERATION MOVEMENTS, BUT DANES WERE SUCCESSFUL IN STANDING ON THEIR POSITION OF NO RECOGNITION UNLESS MOVEMENT IS ACTUALLY IN CONTROL OF TERRITORY, WITH USUAL LEGAL ATTRIBUTES OF INDEPENDENT GOVERNMENT. DANES ARE EXPECTED TO FOLLOW SAME LINE IN EC MEETING IN BONN APRIL 8. FINNS AND SWEDES REPORTEDLY SYMPATHIZED WITH NORWEGIAN POSITION.

3. MFA TELLS US THAT KEFLAVIK BASE NOT DISCUSSED, BUT DANES HAVE BEEN ADVISED SEPARATELY BY ICELANDERS THAT THEIR FOEIGN MINISTER IS GOING TO WASHINGTON TO DISCUSS QUESTION. THORNING-PETERSEN NOTED THAT TEXT OF ICELANDIC PROPOSAL HAS ALREADY BEEN PUBLISHED IN NEWSPAPERS.

4. NORDICS CALLED ON CHILEAN GOVERNMENT TO "HALT ITS PERSECUTION OF POLITICAL OPPONENTS" AND EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT "THE NUMEROUS VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS STILL WITNESSED IN MANY PARTS OF THE WORLD." HOWEVER, FOR FIRST TIME IN MANY YEARS, THEY DID NOT SINGLE OUT GREEK GOVERNMENT FOR SPECIAL CRITICISM. WHEN QUERIED ABOUT THIS AT PRESS CONFERENCE, DANISH FOREIGN MINISTER GULDBERG REPLIED THAT GREECE WAS INCLUDED IN GENERAL LANAGUAGE QUOTED ABOVE.

5. GULDBERG ALSO COMMENTED THAT DURING UNGA SPECIAL CONFIDENTIAL

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MEETING NEXT WEEK HE PLANNED TO RAISE QUESTION OF MAINTENANCE OF PEACE KEEPING FORCES ON CYPRUS. MFA SOURCE TELLS US, HOWEVER, THAT HE DOES NOT BELIEVE GULDBERG PLANS TO MENTION THIS IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY, BUT ONLY TO TAKE IT UP WITH SYG. THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF DANISH PARLIAMENT HAS BEEN PRESSING FOR REDUCTION IN DANISH PRESENCE IN CYPRUS FORCE.

6. ALL NORDICS AGREED THAT RECENT MIDDLE EAST DEVELOPMENTS HELD OUT PROSPECTS FOR OVERALL SOLUTION IN CONFORMITY WITH UNSC RESOLUTION 242 AND 338, AND WELCOMED EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI DISENGAGEMENT. THEY ALSO AGREED THAT LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF PALESTINIANS SHOULD BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT. DANES ADDED FURTHER REFERENCE TO EC DECLARATION OF NOVEMBER 6, REPORTEDLY IN ORDER TO ASSOCIATE THEMSELVES SPECIFICALLY WITH MORE PRO-ARAB FORMULATION CONTAINED THEREIN.

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